

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

September 8, 2014

www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/coolidge

Dear Families,

Friday marked our first All School Meeting for students in grades 1-4. Conditions were warm; it was near 90 in the cafeteria. Most importantly, it was warm and friendly. Despite the heat, students were happy to gather together again, to sing, and to meet new children from other classes. For all these reasons, I am happy too.

Why do we hold these meetings? There are lots of reasons. First of all, our meetings are opportunities for me to build close relationships with and among the children. Meetings also allow me to share important messages with many students at once. When I was a child, we called big gatherings “assemblies”- and there are some meetings that follow some of the same themes I recall as a kid, from Fire Safety to Friendship.

The theme of yesterday’s meeting was Kindness. We celebrated the addition of nearly ten students to every grade and practiced applauding as a group (a nice opportunity to practice our core value of cooperation). We watched a video clip made by third graders in another town that depicts how one helpful act begets another. Finally, the children practiced routine skills that come with being part of a big group: being a good audience, using signals to get silent fast in between sharing, moving from a standing line to a seated group and vice versa. With time, these things will become second nature. For now, any help you can provide at home to reinforce ‘active listening’ would be great. Soon our meetings will feature student sharing. I can’t wait!

Please encourage your child to consider sharing special news or skills in a future meeting; these shares are often the most powerful part of our time together.

Sincerely,

Amy

Important Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday	September 17, School Pictures
Tuesday	September 23, Curriculum Night, Grades 3 and 4, 6:30-7:30 pm
Tuesday	September 30, Curriculum Night, Kindergarten, Grades 1 & 2, 6:30
Tuesday	October 7, Early Release Day, 12:15 pm dismissal for students
Thursday	October 9, Math Meeting for Parents with Dr. Richard Bisk
Monday	October 13, No School – Columbus Day

FYI

School Council

We are looking for 3 parent representative(s) to join School Council. Our School Council is an advisory board comprised of teachers, parents, a community representative, and the building principal. The Council's job is to determine our school's needs and priorities. One of the largest tasks of our council is to develop our school improvement plan.

School Council holds monthly meetings. This year we are hoping to hold the meetings in the morning before school begins. If you would like to volunteer your time, please send an email to me at aclouter@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us. If more than one parent volunteers, the PTO will hold an election for this position through a Monday/ blue folder ballot.

We sincerely thank you for your cooperation in helping to ensure a safe and smooth dismissal. Please help us continue to cut down waiting time by displaying your car sign and by communicating the PPU routine with everyone who is authorized to pick up your child. Remember you may change dismissal plans for your child- just remember to send in a written note or call to alert us to the change. Staff may not see emails sent during the day.

PTO NEWSFLASH

Week of 9/8

PTO NEWSFLASH

Email: ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Blog: <http://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/> The PTO has created a blog as an additional resource for information and events. Come check it out!

Facebook Group: "Calvin Coolidge PTO" <http://www.facebook.com/groups/coolidgepto/> All parents, guardians, and staff are welcome to join our group on Facebook. It's a great place to chat with the community.

Direct Donation: <https://npo.justgive.org/coolidgepto> There are many ways to help support the PTO, a direct donation is just one.

PTO Meetings: Hello Coolidge parents! We would love you to join us for our PTO meetings. It's a fun place to meet new people and find out what's happening at your child's school.

Our first meeting will take place at 7 pm in the Media Center on Thursday, September 18th.

At each meeting, we get up-to-date reports from the Teachers' Reports and the Principals' Report; two appointed Teacher reps explain what is happening in the classrooms then our Principal Mrs. Amy Clouter provides us with a wide array of informative items such as how Common Core will affect classrooms as well as other important curriculum info, and MCAS etc.. We also go over the Treasurer's Report and the Enrichment Report, which explain how we plan to support the school this school year. To get up-to-date information about PTO meeting times, activities, and fundraisers please [click here](#). We look forward to seeing you!

Box Tops and Rewards: Are you looking for a way to support your school without handing out your cash? There are so many ways that you can help!

We are always accepting Boxtops, which can be found on many of your favorite items. Just clip them and send them in with your child. They help us earn money for our school.

Labels for Education can be found on most Campbell's and Pepperidge Farm products. These help us earn supplies for our school.

Kellogg's rewards codes are printed **inside** the boxes of most Kellogg's products. These help us earn books and supplies for our school.

Coke Rewards codes can be found **inside** Coke product caps, as well as **inside** the 12 pack boxes of Coke products. These help us earn supplies for our school.

Also, there should be a flyer to link your Price Chopper and Stop and Shop cards to Coolidge coming home in your child's folder this week. Please take a few minutes to write down your customer card number for each store. Ask friends and family for their numbers as well. Every little bit helps! If you have linked your card to Coolidge in the past, **it is still necessary to provide us with the information EACH YEAR** in order for Coolidge earns the points. Price Chopper allows us to use those points to earn supplies for our school, while Stop & Shop delivers a check at the end of the school year to our school.

Thank you for your support!